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Commission on the Status of Women
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Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"

United States of America: draft resolution

Reducing demand for trafficked women and girls

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 59/166 of 20 December 2004 and Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/45 of 19 April 2004,[1]

Acknowledging the fact that the majority of victims of trafficking in persons are women and girls,

Concerned about the increasing occurrence of trafficking for purposes of sexual exploitation and sex tourism,

Recognizing that prostitution and the trafficking in persons for the purpose of prostitution are incompatible with the dignity and worth of the human person and endanger the welfare of the individual, the family, and the community,

Recognizing also that the use of women in international prostitution and trafficking networks has become a major focus of international organized crime,

Convinced that a key element to combating the particular problem of trafficking in women and girls is reducing the demand for victims, including the demand for prostitution and other forms of sexual exploitation,

Deeply concerned over the commission of unconscionable acts of sexual abuse and exploitation by a number of uniformed peacekeepers and civilian officials of some United Nations peacekeeping missions, and concerned that such activity fuels the demand for victims of trafficking,

[1] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 3* (E/2004/23), chap. II.A.

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1. *Calls upon* Governments to:

(a) Adopt or strengthen legislative or other measures, such as educational, social or other measures, including through bilateral and multilateral cooperation, to discourage the demand that fosters all forms of exploitation of persons, especially women and children, and that leads to trafficking;

(b) Criminalize trafficking in persons, especially women and children, in all its forms and to condemn and penalize traffickers and intermediaries, while ensuring protection and assistance to the victims of trafficking, with full respect for their human rights;

(c) Enforce or adopt legislative and other measures to deter exploiters and sex buyers who create the demand for prostitution that leads to sex trafficking;

(d) Conclude bilateral, subregional, regional and international agreements to address the problem of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, including mutual assistance treaties to enhance police cooperation, agreements and memoranda of understanding on information-sharing, and specific measures aimed at reducing demand;

2. *Also calls upon* Governments and civil society to:

(a) Take appropriate measures to raise public awareness of the issue of trafficking in persons, particularly in women and girls, including to address the demand side of the problem, to publicize laws, regulations and penalties relating to this issue and to emphasize that trafficking is a crime, in order to eliminate the demand for trafficked women and children, including by sex tourists;

(b) Implement educational programmes, including at the local level, in order to raise awareness of the negative consequences of prostitution and other forms of sexual exploitation, including the links to trafficking in persons, organized crime and harmful public health effects, and to inform sex buyers of the violence that prostitutes experience;

(c) Conduct research on the relationship between the trafficking of women and children for sex and legislation governing prostitution and other forms of sexual exploitation;

3. *Encourages* the business sector, in particular the tourism industry and Internet providers, to:

(a) Develop or adhere to codes of conduct with a view to preventing trafficking in persons and protecting the victims of such traffic, especially those in prostitution, and promoting their rights, dignity and security;

(b) Collaborate and take action in coordination with governmental and non-governmental organizations to eliminate child sex tourism;

4. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General, in conjunction with countries contributing troops to United Nations peacekeeping missions, to ensure the provision of training to peacekeepers and civilian and military advisers on sexual abuse and exploitation, including trafficking, and to ensure that allegations of sexual abuse and exploitation, including trafficking, are swiftly investigated and dealt with.